

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, please replace paragraph 3 with the following paragraph:

Figure 2 is a plot of flame luminance as a function of burner phase for a conventional firing automatic oil burner. Luminance intensity values at which fuel supply is to be stopped to the burner (not shown) are shown in hatched line. These requirements to the flame signal are shown in Fig. 2 by means of the starting process of a conventional firing automatic. Values which the flame signal must not assume are represented with hatched lines. Otherwise an error message is issued and the fuel supply is stopped.

On page 1, please replace paragraph 4 with the following paragraph:

With continued reference to Figure 2, During the
a starting phase I of the oil burner, the illumination
intensity detected by a flame sensor (not shown) in the
burning chamber (not shown) must not exceed the a
luminance threshold $B_{max}(I)$, otherwise the fuel supply is stopped.
The A security phase II following the starting phase I is
the maximum duration from the opening of the fuel valves
(not shown) during which fuel can flow into the burning
chamber without forming a flame. During the a
stabilization phase III and the operating phase IV, the
detected illumination intensity must not fall below the
darkness threshold $B_{min}(III, IV) (>B_{max}(I))$ which occurs
during flame failure, otherwise the fuel supply is stopped.

To increase the monitoring security, the—a negative switching difference $\Delta B = B_{\max}(I) - B_{\min}(III, IV)$ must assume highest possible values and the luminance notification during operation must be effected at highest possible illumination intensities.

On page 3, please replace the fourth full paragraph with the following paragraph.

The invention also concerns corresponding monitoring methods and firing ~~automatics~~—automatic burners which are operated or equipped with such a flame monitoring device.

On page 3, please replace the last paragraph with the following paragraph:

Fig. 1 shows a monitoring diagram of luminance vs. phase for a ~~an inventive~~—flame monitoring device in accordance with the present invention with schematically indicated temporal developments of the illumination intensities of yellow-flame (a) and blue-flame (b) oil burners; and

On page 4, please replace the first paragraph with the following paragraph:

Fig. 2 shows a monitoring diagram of luminance vs. phase for a conventional monitoring device with schematically indicated temporal developments of the illumination intensities of yellow-flame (a) and blue-flame (b) oil burner//./.; and

On page 4, add the following paragraph following the first paragraph.

Fig. 3 is a block diagram of a device in accordance with the present invention for monitoring the flame of oil burners.

On page 4, please amend the last paragraph as follows:

A device 10 for monitoring the flame of oil burners 12, in particular of yellow-flame or blue-flame oil burners, comprises a flame sensor 14 detecting the illumination intensity in the a burning chamber 16 and a monitoring circuit 18 which controls the a fuel supply 20 in dependence on the detected illumination intensity indicated by dashed line 22 //./., with a A luminance threshold $B_{\max}(I)$ is utilized for the starting phase I of the oil burner above with an error message is issued, and with a darkness threshold $B_{\min}(III,IV)$ higher than the luminance threshold $B_{\max}(I)$ for the stabilization and operating phase III,IV of the oil burner below which an error message is issued. The darkness threshold $B_{\min}(III)$ is thereby higher during the stabilization phase III than the darkness threshold $B_{\min}(IV)$ during the subsequent operating phase IV. Consequently, the same flame sensor can be used for yellow-flame and blue-flame oil burners.